

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): An aqueous dispersion of a water-soluble polymer of N-vinylformamide and/or of N-vinylacetamide, wherein the dispersion contains, based on 100 parts by weight of water,

(A) from 5 to 80 parts by weight of a water-soluble polymer containing N-vinylformamide units and/or N-vinylacetamide units and having a particle size of from 50 nm to 2 μ m

(B) from 1 to 50 parts by weight of at least one polymeric dispersant which is selected from the group consisting of carboxymethylcellulose, water-soluble starch, starch esters, starch xanthogenates, starch acetates, dextran, polyalkylene glycols, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyvinylpyridine, polyethyleneimine, polyvinylimidazole, polyvinylsuccinimide, a 1:1 molar ratio copolymer of N-vinylcaprolactam and N-vinylacetamide, and polydiallyldimethylammonium chloride, the aqueous dispersion being substantially free of stabilizing inorganic salt.

Claim 2 (Original): An aqueous dispersion of a water-soluble polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dispersion contains, based on 100 parts by weight of water,

(A) from 10 to 50 parts by weight of a water-soluble polymer containing N-vinylformamide units and/or N-vinylacetamide units and

(B) from 5 to 40 parts by weight of at least one polymeric dispersant.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): An aqueous dispersion of a water-soluble polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dispersion contains as component (A) a homopolymer of N-vinylformamide.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): An aqueous dispersion of a water-soluble polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the N-vinylformamide units and/or vinylacetamide units of the polymer (A) have been partially or completely converted into a polymer containing vinylamine units by hydrolysis with acids or bases.

Please delete Claims 5-10.